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Narey et al.

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[54] **BALLOT TALLYING SYSTEM INCLUDING A DIGITAL PROGRAMMABLE READ ONLY CONTROL MEMORY, A DIGITAL BALLOT IMAGE MEMORY AND A DIGITAL TOTALS MEMORY**

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[51] **Int. Cl.**[2] **G07C 13/00**; G06K 3/00; G06F 7/12

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 340/172.5; 235/54 F, 235/61.9 R, 92 AC

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

Ballot receiving, storing, and tallying system, capable of reading individual ballots and of delivering a printed record showing the subtotals of votes cast for the various candidates, propositions, and the like, and incorporating solid-state logic circuits for carrying out various functions of the system. The system includes a digital programmable read-only control memory for storing a group of instruction words representing possible vote marking positions on ballot formats interpreted by the system; a digital ballot image memory for temporarily storing representations of all marks on a ballot sensed as the ballot passes a mark sensing station; and a digital totals memory for maintaining incrementally up-dated totals accumulated for each vote marking position on the ballot. Also included is an interlocking circuit which prevents the accepting and feeding of any ballots, for example, until after a key operated switch has been properly actuated.

2 Claims, 46 Drawing Figures